

Was the departure by the *Albatross* for Shanghai, of Mr. Neil O'Brien, the manager of the Mascotte Opera Co. Mr. O'Brien has gone North to make the preliminary arrangements for the forthcoming visit of the Company to the Model Settlement.

We understand that, under the new Postal regulations, forty-two parcels were received at the Post Office for transmission to Europe by the last home mail, and that more would have been sent but for the fact that many of those desirous of sending parcels had misunderstood the rules and regulations to be conformed with. These were published in our issue of the 19th September.

We hear from Macao that nothing has yet been decided as to the trial of the four prisoners in the hands of the Macao authorities on the charge of being concerned in the *Greyhound* piracy. It is believed that an old offender in this Colony, Tung Aikow, now believed to be in the village of Kwo-lo-wan, opposite Macao, was one of the men who pirated the *Greyhound*, but he had not, up to the departure of the *Macao* boat this morning, been arrested. This is the man who, some years ago, while a prisoner in Victoria Gaol, was a violent assault upon the late Mr. Tommochy, then Superintendent of the Victoria Gaol.

In another column we give a translation of a portion of a new Chinese work, just published in Canton. The book is of a novel character. It deals with the relations of China with foreign countries from a Chinese point of view, treats of the opium and treaty questions, and also matters of international law. Its author is Wong Chi Ch'ui, who is said to have been formerly a pupil of the present Viceroy of the Two Kwang; and the book is issued under the auspices and with the approval of Pang Yuk Lun, the Imperial High Commissioner, whose name appears on the title page.

The action of the Mandatary Government in threatening to levy a monstrous fine upon the Bombay-Burma Trading Corporation is likely to lead to serious trouble. The matter has come before the Government of India on the representation of the Chief Commissioner, and such steps are now being taken as will prevent any injustice being suffered by British subjects. Writing on this subject about a month ago, the *Forward* says:—French intrigue is undoubtedly rife in Upper Burma, and disquieting for local opinion in the reports that come from the British provinces, the suddenly aggressive attitude assumed by Theobald may undoubtedly be put down to that cause. The King contends that the Trading Corporation have broken their contract regarding the tea forest west of Mandalay; and on the strength of this alleged breach he demands a compensation of some 25 lakhs. The Corporation maintain that this is merely a pretext for breaking off the engagement with them and letting in the French, and it must be said that it looks exceedingly like it. How real and well-founded the anxiety that prevails among the commercial men may be judged from the report of the interview between a delegation from the Chamber of Commerce and the Chief Commissioner. And Mr. Bernard, too, the very reverse of an aggressive politician, seems to have been thoroughly in accord with the opinions of his visitors.

Last night the Mascotte Opera Company gave a most successful representation of Gilbert & Sullivan's aesthetic opera *Patience*, to a fair, but not crowded house. The opera is now so familiar that no description of the plot is necessary. The piece was very well mounted last night, and the costumes, upon which so much depends in imparting the intended effect in this opera, were most artistic and correct. Miss Eva Davenport assumed the title role and acted the part of the rural maid with much grace and effect. The pretty songs which fall to the lot of the heroine were rendered by Miss Davenport with much expression, and on several occasions brought forth rounds of applause from the audience. Miss Florence Seymour, as *The Lady Jane*, had a part to play which was not well suited to her, but nevertheless she acted the character of the aesthetic old maid with much success and was in very good voice. Mr. Farley made the most of the somewhat insipid and colourless role of Archibald Grosvenor, and was particularly successful in the duet with *Banithorne* in the final act, in which the *Kelly* and *Walsh* young man came to the front. Mr. Tyrrell's deep and style, as the fleshy post, *Banithorne*, was a reflex of Mr. Grosvenor's appearance in the part, and his conception of the role was carefully carried out. Mr. Vernon Reid, as the Duke of Dunstable, and Mr. Neil O'Brien, as Colonel Cliveley of the Dragon Guards, had not much scope for the exercise of their vocal or dramatic talents, but played and sang their parts well. Mr. Scott's duties as *Major Murphree* were also light, but he came out strong in the final war-dance. Miss Carrie Hubert, Thompson and Stalls were most aesthetically dressed and followed and adorned the fleshy post as only rapturist maidens could be expected to do. The maidens' chorus was very well sung and the solo that fell to the *Lady Angela*, was capably rendered by Miss Hubert. The chorus generally, in which several handsome assistants were mixed with plenty of spirit and vim, and altogether the performance was

one of the most successful yet given by this popular company in the colony.

To-morrow night, (Saturday) the Mascotte will perform H.M.S. *Pinafore*.

The 'Women's Protection League' and Socialist Republican Federation of France held a great meeting in Paris on Wednesday the 2nd Sept. and nearly frightened its male members into the Seine. The Women's Protection League, which is the best proof that women need no self defence, had drawn up a list of female candidates for the coming elections; and with a generosity that the other sex would do well to emulate, had asked a few gentlemen to assist the ladies. But the gentlemen do not seem to have been worthy of this honour, for they declined it with precipitation. Then at Wednesday's meeting, when the name of a female candidate was mentioned, a monster, who does not seem to have been in his right mind, jumped up and said that he had just left the ladies' husband, and that he was disgusted with the whole movement. The lady confronted this to-daring man with a loud cry for profit; there was sensation and a hum of angry voices, and when it subsided the gentleman was far away. The business of the meeting was then proceeded with, and several ladies accepted with gratification the request issued by themselves asking them to come forward as candidates. Subject for reflection is afforded by the fact that the next meeting is to be held at the Salle Molliere. A political ghost will be present at that assembly.—*St. James's Budget.*

CRICKET.

HONGKONG CRICKET CLUB v. THE OFFICERS OF THE GARRISON.

This match was commenced this afternoon, in a splendid weather and on a capital wicket. The Garrison won the toss and went first to the wicket, but only succeeded in putting together a total of 65, to which a member of the new Regiment, Mr. A. S. Parkin, contributed 20 and Mr. D'Aeth 13. The bowling of Mr. Leach seemed to be remarkably telling, and, with the exception of the two named, none of the Garrison batsmen made anything like a stand. The Club had not finished their innings when the stumps were drawn, but had by that time with three wickets for loss, nearly doubled their opponents' score. Mr. E. R. Wood was not out with 36 to his credit, and Messrs. Darby, Stokes and Jackson are left to bat. Mr. Barff, who has already proved himself a skilful and steady batsman, contributed 28, and Mr. Travers 18, to the Club's score.

The match will be continued to-morrow morning, play commencing at 11.30 sharp.

The following are to-day's scores:

Mr. C. P. Lloyd, Secy. & Treas.	1
G. W. H. D'Aeth, & Jackson, & Travers,	18
A. S. Parkin, & Barff, & Leach,	29
F. D'Aeth, & Travers, & Leach,	4
M. D. Graham, & Coxon, & Leach,	7
C. A. A. Bramwell, run out,	0
C. H. Gordon, & Darby, & Plumble,	2
Capt. Collinson, & Leach,	1
J. Lloyd, & Christie,	3
A. A. Lloyd, not out,	6
Extras,	6
Total,	65

H. E. C.

